

# FEMORAL PULSE ASSESSMENT

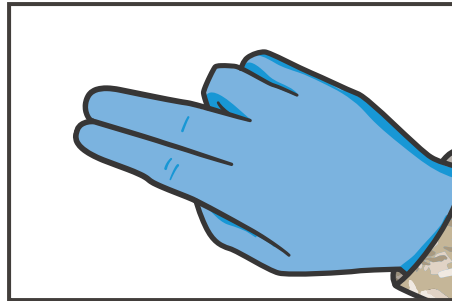


**CONSIDER** body substance isolation.

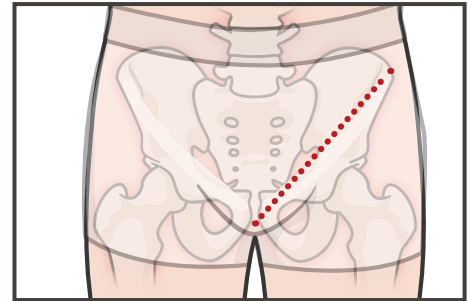
**NOTE:** If a Combat Lifesaver is available, direct them to assist.



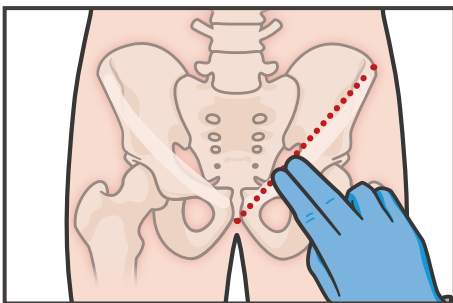
**01 POSITION** the casualty in the supine position.



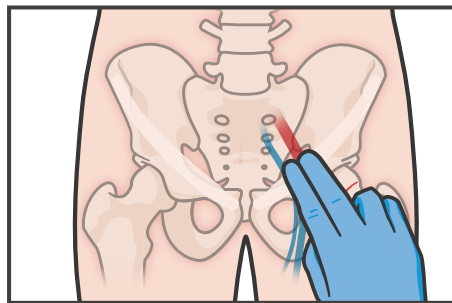
**02 ALIGN** the middle and index fingers of your dominant hand.



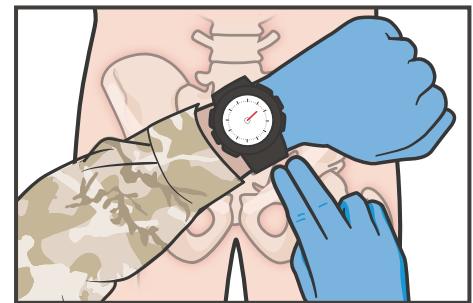
**03 DRAW** an imaginary line from the anterior aspect of the pelvic crest to the pubic bone.



**04 PLACE** your fingers halfway between the pubis symphysis and the anterior iliac spine (or slightly medial to that) and press in and up toward the head (just past the inguinal gutter).



**05 PRESS** on the artery gently with your two fingers to feel a pulse.



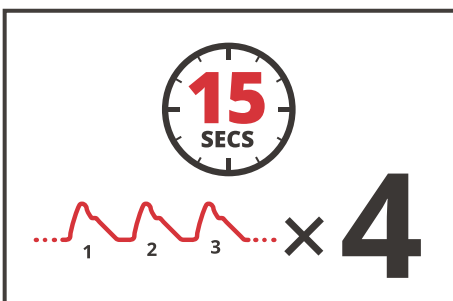
**06** With a timing device, **COUNT** the beats of the pulse for 15 seconds.

**STEP 4 NOTE:** The inguinal gutter is the crevice between the top of the thigh and the lower abdomen where heavy blood flow structures are located; it is halfway between the bone above the genitals (pubic bone) and top of the thigh.

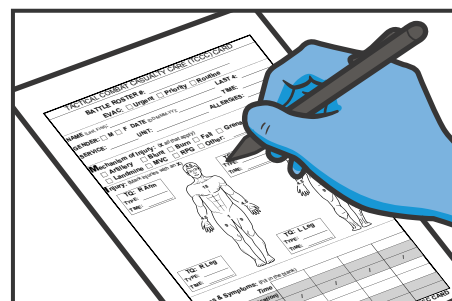
**STEP 5 NOTE:** (a) If you are unable to feel the pulse, reposition the casualty (ensure they are lying flat on their back with legs outstretched).

(b) If you are still unable to find the pulse, rotate the casualty's leg externally, opening up the inner thigh region.

(c) If you are still unsuccessful, reposition the leg in external rotation with a slight bend to the knee.



**07 MULTIPLY** that number by four and you will have the casualty's pulse rate (in beats/minute).



**08 DOCUMENT** all findings and treatments on a DD Form 1380 TCCC Casualty Card and attach it to the casualty.